

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A user interface for managing the display of similar information on a plurality of displays having different dimensional characteristics comprising:

5 a first set of display screens including one or more information screens, which are formatted for presentation on a first display; and

a second set of display screens including one or more information screens, which are formatted for presentation on a second display, where each information screen is associated with a corresponding one of the one or more information screens of the first set of display screens.

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2. A user interface in accordance with claim 1 wherein the displays having different dimensional characteristics include displays having a different resolution in at least one of a horizontal and a vertical direction.

15 3. A user interface in accordance with claim 1 wherein at least some of the corresponding information screens from the first and second set of display screens are scaled so as to be appropriately sized for presentation on the respective displays having different dimensional characteristics.

20 4. A user interface in accordance with claim 1 wherein some of the corresponding screens from at least one of the first and second set of display screens includes additional display information.

25 5. A user interface in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plurality of displays include different display areas corresponding to different display elements.

6. A user interface in accordance with claim 4 wherein the plurality of displays are incorporated as part of a hand-held electronic device having a cover coupled to a body via a hinge, where a first one of different display elements, when active, is
30 visible through an external surface of the cover, and a second one of different display elements is visible when an internal surface of the cover is exposed to the user.

7. A user interface in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plurality of displays includes different display areas of the same display element.
- 5 8. A user interface in accordance with claim 7 where only one display area is actively presenting a display screen at any given time.
9. A user interface in accordance with claim 7 where at least a first one of the display areas is defined by the size of an opening in a cover, which selectively
10 overlays a display element, and where at least a second one of the display areas is defined by the size of the display element exposed when the cover does not overlay the display element.
10. A user interface in accordance with claim 9 where the corresponding display
15 screen from the first set of display screens is presented in the first display area, when the cover overlays the display element, and the corresponding display screen from the second set of display screens is presented in the second display area, when the cover does not overlay the display element.
- 20 11. A user interface in accordance with claim 1 wherein at least one of the displays includes touch sensitivity in at least one or more portions of the respective display.
12. A user interface in accordance with claim 1 wherein the continuity of the
25 screens being displayed is maintained as a user shifts between viewing different displays.
13. A portable electronic device having at least a two part housing, which rotate relative to one another between an open and a close position, comprising:
30 a body;
a cover; and

a hinge coupled to said body and said cover for allowing rotation of the cover relative to the body between an open and a close position;

said cover including an internal surface facing toward the body, when the portable electronic device is in a close position, and an external surface facing away
5 from the body, when the portable electronic device is in a close position;

said external surface of said cover having a display, which is viewable through the external surface, when active, and a user actuated control element.

14. A portable electronic device in accordance with claim 13 wherein said user
10 actuated control element includes one or more touch sensitive areas.

15. A portable electronic device in accordance with claim 13 wherein said user actuated control element is incorporated as part of said display.

15 16. A portable electronic device in accordance with claim 15 wherein said display and user actuated control element includes:

a display element;
a touch sensitive film; and
a lens.

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17. A portable electronic device in accordance with claim 16, wherein said display element includes a liquid crystal display.

18. A portable electronic device in accordance with claim 16, wherein said display
25 element includes an organic light emitting device.

19. A portable electronic device in accordance with claim 16, wherein said display additionally includes a back light, which is adapted to be selectively illuminated.

20. A portable electronic device in accordance with claim 19, wherein said lens is a tinted lens that is substantially translucent when the back light is on and is substantially opaque when the back light is off.

5 21. A portable electronic device in accordance with claim 16, wherein the lens is a protective lens and wherein said touch sensitive film is a capacitive film located behind the lens.

22. A method of managing the display of similar information on a plurality of
10 displays having different dimensional characteristics and corresponding sets of display screens including information screens formatted for presentation on the respective display comprising:

determining if a selection has been received from the user;

detecting the viewability by the user of the plurality of displays; and

15 updating one or more of the viewable displays to present the selected user information from the information screens of the respective sets of display screens.

23. A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein detecting the viewability by the user of the plurality of displays include detecting whether a two part housing of a
20 clam shell style housing is open or closed.